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UNCLAS MADRID 001131

SIPDIS

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [CASC](#) [ASEC](#) [SP](#) [PTER](#)

SUBJECT: PROPOSED PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT - SPAIN

1. Summary: Below is the text of a proposed public announcement for Spain. The EAC met today and determined that an updated Public Announcement was warranted in light of the discovery of a bomb on the rail line used by the high speed train connecting Madrid and Seville earlier today. End Summary.

2. Begin Text of Public Announcement:

This Public Announcement is being issued to update U.S. citizens on the situation in Spain. It will expire on July 2, 2004.

On April 2, 2004, railroad authorities and the Spanish Civil Guard discovered a ten-kilo bomb on the train tracks between Seville and Madrid on the high speed "AVE" train line.

A series of bombs were detonated on commuter trains in the Madrid area and at the Atocha station on Thursday, March 11, 2004, resulting in many deaths and injuries.

At least three Americans were among the injured. In December 2003 and February 2004, Spanish authorities thwarted other potential attacks by intercepting explosives and apprehending suspects believed to be targeting Spanish transportation lines.

These recent terrorist incidents involving threats to public transportation, specifically railroads, indicate the need for U.S. citizens in Spain to remain alert and to exercise special caution in using these public transportation services.

Americans living in Spain, and those contemplating travel to Spain, should review the Consular Information Sheet for Spain and Andorra and review the Worldwide Caution of March 23, 2004, at <http://travel.state.gov> or at the U.S. Embassy website on <http://www.embusa.es> and monitor news broadcasts. Callers in the United States and Canada may reach the U.S. State Department, Office of Overseas Citizens Services at 1-888-407-4747 or from outside the US and Canada call 317-472-2328.

End proposed text

Argyros